

REMARKS

Examiner Gloria R. Weeks and Supervising Examiner Rinaldi I. Rada, the Examiners indicated that claim 44 would be allowable if amended to include the features recited in claims 45 and 47 during a December 6, 2005 telephone interview with Applicant's patent attorney Anthony G. Fussner (Reg. No. 47,582) and patent agent Kevin Pumm (Reg. No. 49,046).

The Examiners further indicated that the other pending independent claims would also be allowable if rewritten to include the features recited in claims 45 and 47. Accordingly, Applicant has amended all pending independent claims 1, 7, 15, 29, 31, 37, and 44 to include the features recited in claims 45 and 47, to thereby place the application in condition for full allowance as indicated by the Examiners.

Claims 16-28, 34, 36, 41, 43, 45, 47-49, and 52 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. Applicant expressly reserves the right to refile these cancelled claims in one or more subsequent applications and contest any rejections or objection thereof.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Final Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable consideration of this response is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (314) 726-7502.

Applicant believes that he does not owe any fee in connection with this filing. If, however, Applicant does owe any fee(s), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. In addition, if there is ever any other fee deficiency or overpayment under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17 in connection with this patent application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiency or overpayment to Deposit Account No. **08-0750**.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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